

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 CG-00 FMC-01 DLOS-06 DOTE-00 /118 W

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R 130931Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7202

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 13387

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, ID

SUBJECT: JAPANESE-INDONESIAN LNG DISCUSSIONS

1. FINAL REOUND OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN JAPANESE UTILITY

COMPANIES, PERTAMINA, AND OIL COMPANIES (MOBIL, HUFFCO, AND BURMAH) BEGAN THIS WEEK IN SEMARANG. PARTICIPANTS HOPE TO FINALIZE JAPANESE-INDONESIAN LNG SALES CONTRACT WHICH WILL INCORPORATE RECENT TOKYO TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT. CHOICE OF VENUE PRESENTED SOME LAST-MINUTE PROBLEMS; JAPANESE, WHO WANTED MEETING IN JAKARTA, REFUSED TO CONVENE IN BALI BECAUSE THEY FELT INDONESIANS WERE "PRESSURING" THEM. OIL AND GAS DIRECTOR WIJARSO INSISTED DISCUSSIONS NOT BE HELD IN JAKARTA BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE PROBLEMS WITH PRESS; HENCE, SEMARANG SELECTED AS COMPROMISE.

2. REPORT TELEPHONED TODAY BY BURMAH REP INDICATED TALKS PROCEEDING ON TRACK. DISCUSSIONS ARE FOCUSING ON VARIOUS LEGAL AND TECHNICAL POINT AND NO MAJOR DIFFERENCES HAVE

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SURFACED. INDONESIANS AFRADI, HOWEVER, THAT JAPANESE

DELEGATION LACKS SUFFICIENT CLOUT TO MAKE DECISIONS WITHOUT REFERENCE FIRST TO TOKYO. (ITOH OF KANSAI IS NOT PARTICIPATING; CHUBU REP IS LEADING JAPANESE TEAM THIS TIME.) SCHEDULE CALLS FOR TALKS TO BE WRAPPED UP THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14.

3. PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF TIRTO UTOMO AND WIJARSO FROM JAKARTA, EMBOFF HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE IMPACT OF GREENBURG CASE ON MEETINGS. BOTH WERE AWARE OF PERTINENT FACTS; EACH DOWNPLAYED SIGNIFICANCE OF CASE. WIJARSO SUSPECTED THAT RIVAL AMERICAN FIRM WAS LURKING BEHIND SCENES. HE PROFESSED NOT TO BE CONCERNED BY THIS, HOWEVER, STATING "WE HAVE SMOKED THE PEACE PIPE" WITH OTHER SHIPPING COMPANIES. NEWSOM

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